



STUDY CIRCLE

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JANUARY 27th, 1954

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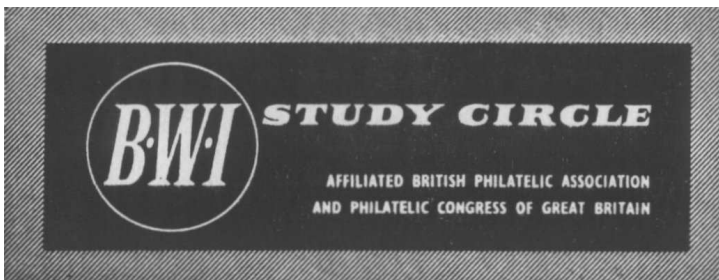
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OBJECTS

1. TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of:

ANTIGUA • BAHAMAS • BARBADOS
BERMUDA • BRITISH GUIANA • BRITISH
HONDURAS • CAYMAN ISLANDS • DOMINICA
GRENADA • JAMAICA • LEEWARD ISLANDS
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ST. VINCENT • TRINIDAD and TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS • VIRGIN ISLANDS

2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.

3. To loan books from Circle library (home members only).

4. To publicise 'wants'.

5. To furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.

MEMBERSHIP

is WORLD-WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be advanced or new collectors. The ANNUAL subscription is £1 or the equivalent in local currency, due 1st February. If remitting in currency please add 30c to cover collection charges. Alternatively a draft for £1 DRAWN on London is acceptable. Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to "B.W.I. Study Circle".

AUTUMN MEETING

The Autumn Meeting was held in the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association at 446 Strand, London, W.C.2, on Saturday, 27th September, at 3 p.m., and was attended by eighteen members and three guests. Our President was in the chair and extended a sincere welcome to all present and particularly to three members Miss Collinson, Dr. D. Woolfson and Mr. S. Goldblatt who had come for the first time to our meetings. Our Hon. Librarian Rose Titford who has not been able to attend our meetings for some years on account of ill-health made the journey from Hereford to the Meeting and was most sincerely welcomed by members who were quite obviously pleased to see her again.

Our Hon. Secretary Philip Saunders then invited Mr. E. V. Toeg to give his display of Leeward Islands, details of which are as follows:-

The display commenced with items which really belong to Great Britain being examples of the two LEEWARD ISLAND FALMOUTH packet marks struck in green at Falmouth, the one with AP 1810 in centre being the earliest known impression and the other being without date in centre and of very late usage in July, 1842.

A master die proof of the standard Key Plate design 1888 used by eight countries and die proofs of the name and value tablets of all the values of the 1890 definitive set then followed together with the 1890 set in mint marginal blocks of four from plate 1.

This collection is strong in the 1897 Diamond Jubilee material which included the set overprinted 'ULTRAMAR' in blue thus proving that specimen stamps of this set do exist. The same set complete in mint blocks of four was followed by double overprints from the ½d. to the 5/- value and also the 1d. with triple overprint in pair with normal.

The Edwardian reign was represented by mint panes of 60 of each of the three 1902 provisional stamps and plate proofs of the 1902 2d. value in trial colours including plate proofs of the colours adopted ultimately for the 2d., 3d., and 2/6d. values.

To herald the King George V stamps the display continued with examples of the Die I unappropriated die proofs endorsed 'BEFORE STRIKING' and 'AFTER STRIKING' respectively of the standard Key Plate design employed in that reign by fifteen countries and also a similar die proof was exhibited of the Die II design endorsed 'BEFORE STRIKING' which was used for the stamps of eleven countries.

Examples of the ½d. blue-green watermark Script CA Die I and the 1d. bright scarlet watermark Script CA Die I in coil form were also shown. Die proofs of the frame and King's Head, Scrolls and Crown of the large

AUTUMN MEETING (Cont.)

format King George V 10/- and £1 values followed by the adhesives themselves in mint marginal blocks of four from plate 1 came next.

The next section consisted of a selection of varieties starting with examples of the 1890 1d. with misplaced name and value tablets and examples of the 2½d. with inverted watermark. In the 1902 Provisionals the tall narrow 'O' variety was shown on the ONE PENNY on 4d. and on the ONE PENNY on 6d. in blocks of four used.

The main varieties displayed on the Edwardian stamps were the wide 'A' in 'LEEWARD' which can be found on the 2½d. values of all three Edwardian sets and also the dropped 'R' in 'LEEWARD' on the 1902 one shilling value.

Several constant varieties were also shown on the stamps on King George V including the variety defective 'd' in '3d' on the first 3d. value printed in that reign.

A selection of King George VI varieties, many of which have been frequently written about in the philatelic press during the last twenty years or so, was also shown including the 1951 one pound mint with inverted watermark and the 1951 one pound mint with sideways watermark.

Then followed the used material which the speaker said he considered to be the most interesting part of the collection from his point of view. First Antigua with three covers showing the 1897 Diamond Jubilee low values were of particular note. An Air Mail cover of September 1929 was also exhibited carried by Colonel Charles Lindberg on the first commercial flight from Miami, Florida through the Caribbean islands to the South American mainland. This was followed by a cover flown in August, 1931 and carried by the 'Dornier-X' from Antigua to Miami in transit for England.

Some of the Antigua "village" marks were shown. Of particular interest was a cover with an 1890 1d. from "ALL-SAINTS." Items were also shown used at "BOLANS," "JOHNSONS POINT," "PARHAM," "ST. MARY'S" and "ST. PETER'S."

Included in the items from Dominica were examples of the red manuscript cancellations "EDEN," "ESK" and "SOLENT" on cover and a one penny single postcard to England in 1894 with the unusual and short lived Dominica duplex "A07." Also a cover sent from Dominica on 27th July, 1897 to Guadeloupe with a single copy of the 1897 Diamond Jubilee 1d. stamp, the cover being impressed with a black "T" and an imperforate French 30 centimes adhesive postage due stamp at Guadeloupe indicating that the equivalent of 3d. postage was due.

Examples of "village" postmarks from Dominica sub-post-offices were also displayed and included adhesives from "COUHAUT." covers with King

George V adhesives from "DELICES," adhesives from "DUBLANC." covers with King George V adhesives from "LAPLAINE," adhesives cancelled at "SOLIFRIERE," "VIEILLE CASE" and "WESLEY."

The display continued with postal stationery covers with added adhesives from Montserrat to England and the U.S.A. respectively and also an unusual cover sent in February, 1934 which was endorsed in manuscript in red "Carried to Antigua by Naval plane of H.M.S. Achilles." This was followed by modern "village" marks from "CUDJOE HEAD," "HARRIS" and "SALEM."

In the St. Kitts section there were a number of covers shown all of which exemplified the postal rates applicable at the time. The "village" marks included items from "ANGUILLA," "ANGUILLA FOREST," "ANGUILLA ROAD," "CAYON," "DIEPPE BAY," "OLD ROAD" and "SANDY POINT."

In the Virgin Islands Section there was shown a cover addressed to London with the 1890 2½d. cancelled "A91" and also the 1897 Diamond Jubilee set with the five shillings value cancelled with the barred oval canceller "A13" at Tortola. "Village" marks on Leeward Island stamps used in the Virgin Islands are really hard to locate but there were a few items shown with the "VIRGIN-GORDA" c.d.s.

One of the Cinderella sections of most countries is postal stationery: on this occasion there was exhibited a number of examples of the very attractive heavily embossed postal stationery die proofs on thin card in trial colours for envelopes and registered envelopes which are only seen infrequently.

Finally there was a display of the stamps of the Leeward Islands with postmarks from outside this group of islands, i.e. from various islands in the Caribbean and from places in England including examples of a Southampton Ship-letter c.d.s. in June, 1906, and also a Southampton Packet: Letter c.d.s. in September, 1906.

At the conclusion of the display a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. W. A. Townsend, a Vice-President, who stated that he had watched Mr. E. V. Toeg's collection expand during the last ten years and Rose Titford then seconded the vote of thanks.

The meeting closed at 4.45 p.m.

DISPLAY

The Circle gave a display to the Southall Philatelic Society on Tuesday, 7th October, 1969, and Messrs. E. V. Toeg and B. Benwell attended on behalf of the Circle with stamps from their collections for display.

DISPLAY (Cont.)

Mr. L. E. Britnor would have liked to have attended as well, but found that the journey back would have been too much and in the circumstances Mr. Benwell showed Mr. Britnor's stamps and read out some notes which Mr. Britnor had prepared about them.

Mr. E. V. Toeg first showed Leeward Islands postmarks and these were similar to those displayed by him to the Circle at the Autumn meeting on 27th September last and members are referred to the description of his display to the Circle for details of the postmarks shown,

Mr. Benwell then showed Mr. Britnor's sheets, which were sheets of postal history of the British West Indies and he also explained these sheets with the aid of notes given him by Mr. Britnor. For the benefit of members the following is a summary of the display of the sheets by Mr. Britnor:-

1. 1657. Earliest known letter from the B.W.I. without postal markings carried by private ship.
2. 1708. Dummer Packet letter carried by 'Frankland': only known letter with named packet.
3. 1719. Ship letter. No mark of origin.
4. 1779. Packet letter, per "Lord Hyde." Mark of origin JAMAICA.
5. Selection of letters carried by the Government Packet Service (1755-1842), mails carried between London and Falmouth by Russell's wagons.
6. Letter describing details of the action between the Grenville and three American Privateers.
7. Sailing Packets to the W.I. were replaced at the end of 1841 by vessels of the R.M.S.P. Co. but a few continued to operate between Falmouth and some S. American ports until 1850, e.g. "Linnet."
8. Example of Ship Letters, one referring to the Jamaica Coffee House.
9. Examples of the "Commercial Rooms" Kingston, Jamaica, handstamps.
10. Letter carried by warship in 1812.
11. Letters carried by the R.M.S.P. Co. including one carried by the "Thames" on its first return journey from the W.I.
12. Ship letter to Jamaica per "Tweed." This ship left England before the "Thames" to take up duty on the local Inter-Island Feeder Service, therefore it went out as an ordinary ship and not as a packet. The Kingston ship letter, dated mark of arrival, appears on front.
13. Ship letter marks of Barbados.
14. Air Mail letters. One per airship "Los Angeles,"; typical first flight covers.
15. Covers showing local routes to the various islands.
16. Rural posts in Caymans (a) mail waggon between Georgetown and Boddenton.

- (b) Messenger extended service to East End. Each supplied with adhesives and special oblitters.

Mr. Benwell wound up the display by showing his contribution which was a display of varieties selected by him at random from Barbados, details of which are as follows:-

1. 1852-55. 2d. greyish slate bisected and used for 1d. rate on cover.
2. Examples of the 1861-70 ½d., 1d. and 6d. imperforate.
3. 1861-70. 1d. blue, perf. 11 to 12.
4. 1861-70. 1d. blue on cover showing "coloured spot on sail" variety.
5. Copy of S.G. 34 1/- black on cover showing double perforation.
6. 1874. 10d. blue bisected on cover.
7. 1906. Nelson Centenary 1d. red, a reconstructed sheet showing varieties.
8. 1907. Kingston Relief Fund. A complete sheet showing two different settings.
9. 1882-86. 1d. bisected and used on cover.
10. Various varieties on the 1892 4d. brown, 1938-47 2½d. blue, 3d. blue and brown, 1965 2c. and 48c., 1865 6c. 12c.
11. 1965. 4c. imperf. A pair used on cover.
12. Postage dues. 1c. and 6c. showing "St. Edward's Crown."

At the end of the display the Circle was presented with a gilt Card of Appreciation and Thanks by the host society and Mr. Toeg replied suitably.

Philympia 1970

to be held at the Empire Hall, Olympia
on
September 18-26, 1970

Arrangements are in course of being made for a joint meeting of our Circle and British Caribbean Study Group to be held on Monday, September 21st, 1970. Our Committee has in mind a sherry party and a lunch to be followed in the afternoon by a meeting in a room specially reserved in the Olympia building. Further details will appear in subsequent bulletins. It is recommended that members, particularly those attending from overseas, should reserve hotel accommodation by January, 1970. Mr. W. E. Lea, Jnr., Chairman of the Reception Committee, at 1 The Adelphi, John Adam Street, London, W.C.2, will be happy to respond to all enquiries in this connection.

WHY NOT COLLECT ANTIGUA?

As you know, the object of my remarks is to try and tell you in not too general terms about this country and perhaps some of you may decide sooner or later to collect Antigua.

First I will deal with proofs.

The drawing of the 1862 six pence is attributed to Edward Henry Corbould and the engraver is thought to have been Charles Henry Jeens. This design is very attractive and die proofs in black on India paper can be found, but they are rare. Likewise die proofs pulled on India paper of the similar design used for the one penny value from 1863 onward exist, but they are even more rare than the die proofs of the six pence value.

Plate proofs of the six pence value in black and in various shades of green including one shade of green with pen cancellation in blue black ink can also be found. It is important to note the different shades of green and the types of paper used in each case as they are quite distinctive - all the plate proofs of the six pence value which I have seen have been printed on unwatermarked paper and in the case of the six pence plate proof in black the paper has varied from an orange-yellow tone down to what is normally called slight toning.

The six pence blue-green (S.G. 2 and 3) are examples of adhesive stamps with trial perforations. As these stamps were not issued for postal use they must be regarded as of proof status. In the same category of proof status must come the one penny rosy mauve (S.G. 11) also on account of its trial perforations, and it is of course also not known in used condition.

I now come to the De La Rue proofs.

In 1879 De La Rue prepared a die of the design (classified as Victorian Key Type Die 1) which came to be known as the 'Cyprus' type due to the fact that the design was used for Cyprus and for a number of other countries including Antigua. Proofs of this design on glazed card can be found with uncleared name and value tablets and also with cleared name and value tablets.

In 1882 De La Rue also prepared colour trials from this design printed in several colours on gummed paper watermarked Crown CA with differing perforations, i.e. perforation 12 and perforation 14; the name and value tablets being blank. In the same year further colour trials in a number of colours were made of this design on gummed paper watermarked Crown CA and perforated 12 with the name and value tablets filled in with 'ANTIGUA' and 'HALF PENNY' respectively.

A number of Queen Victoria imperforate plate proofs of the various face values are known and all are rare. They consist of 1879 2½d red-brown on paper watermarked Crown CC, and according to Fred J. Melville also 1882 ½d dull green, 2½d red brown and 4d blue and in 1884 1d carmine-red and in the period 1884-86 2½d ultramarine, 4d red-brown and 1/- mauve all being on paper watermarked Crown CA.

Finally Fred J. Melville records that De La Rue printed a colour trial of the one penny in sepia on paper watermarked Crown CA with perforation 12.

You will be relieved to learn that the search for proofs after 1900 is likely to be more fruitful than in the case of the Queen Victoria proof material mentioned above. The stamps printed for Antigua from 1900 to the end of the reign of King George V came initially from two dies, sometimes it would be frame name and value die with separate vignette die or frame and King's Head die with separate value die. Proofs on glazed card pulled from the various individual dies and composite dies can be found and sometimes a progressive die proof or series of progressive die proofs is available showing some stage or stages during the engraving of the die before the final state is reached.

Imperforate colour trials of the Edwardian issues exist and also imperforate plate proofs. I have in my collection imperforate plate proofs of the three War Stamps on gummed paper watermarked Crown CA. I have been generalising about post 1900 proof material on purpose so far as I think that in an article of this kind it would be inappropriate to list die proofs, colour trials and plate proofs as such a list would be very unlikely to include every item that exists.

I now come to specimen stamps.

The earliest one that I know of is the 1872 6d (S.G. 15) overprinted with the word 'SPECIMEN' in black by means of a handstamp in serified letters (Samuel type SO2). Then there is the 1879 2½d red-brown imperforate similarly handstamped: both of these specimen stamps are rare. The 1882 4d (S.G.23) also exists overprinted by machine with the word 'SPECIMEN' in block letters (Samuel type SD7). The 1884-86 2½d (S.G.27) is also to be found overprinted with the word 'SPECIMEN' (Samuel type SD7) and it is also possible to find a specimen stamp of this value with the large '2' in '2½' with slanting foot (S.G.27a). The Victorian specimen stamps conclude with the 1884-86 4d (S.G.28) and 1/- mauve (S.G.30), both of which are to be found overprinted with the word 'SPECIMEN' (Samuel type SD7).

The 1903-9 Edwardian set will be found to have the word 'SPECIMEN' machine printed in block letters (this time however with Samuel type SD7a). So far as I am aware the only specimen stamps of the 1908-17 Edwardian set

WHY NOT COLLECT ANTIGUA? (Cont.)

to be found are the ½d (S.G.41), 1d (S.G.43) and the 2½d (S.G.46) - all these three values are in the Universal colours. As all the other values in the set are in the same colours as the equivalent values in the earlier 1903-9 set it was not thought necessary to produce specimen stamps for these other values whose only difference from the stamps of the 1903-9 set was the watermark.

The first specimen stamp of King George V's reign was the 5/- (S.G.51) overprinted by machine with the word 'SPECIMEN' in block letters (Samuel type SD7a). The three War stamps (S.G. 52, 53 and 54) are also similarly overprinted. Some of the stamps of the long definitive set of 1921-29 can be found with the word 'SPECIMEN' machine printed in block letters (Samuel type SD7) and other stamps from this set will be found with the word 'SPECIMEN' machine printed in small block letters (Samuel type SD9). Three stamps from this same set have the word 'SPECIMEN' perforated in the form of an arc composed of 65 holes (Samuel type PDI). So far all the stamps from 1903 onward were printed by De La Rue & Co., but the 1932 Tercentenary set was printed by Waterlow & Sons and they produced specimen stamps of this set by perforating the word 'SPECIMEN' composed of 70 holes in a diagonal straight line from bottom left to top right of the stamp (Samuel type PW2).

In 1935 De La Rue & Co. recess printed the Silver Jubilee set for Antigua and the printers perforated the word 'SPECIMEN' in the manner already described in connection with the 1921-29 set (Samuel type PD1).

The 1937 Coronation stamps were recess printed by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co., who employed yet a slightly different way of indicating the word 'SPECIMEN' on the stamps of this set. In this case the stamps were perforated with the word 'SPECIMEN' in the form of a circular arc composed of 67 holes (Samuel type PB2).

All values of the 1938 definitives of King George VI being recess printed by Waterlow & Sons have the word 'SPECIMEN' perforated by means of 70 holes as described earlier in connection with the 1932 Tercentenary set (Samuel type PW2).

The last specimen stamps of Antigua to be produced were the 1946 Victory stamps which were recess printed by De La Rue & Co. The word 'SPECIMEN' will be found perforated in the form of a circular arc composed of 65 holes (Samuel type PD2).

Some of you may not have collected specimen stamps to any great extent previously and there is not a great deal of written information available about specimen stamps in philatelic literature so far as I know. The main writer in

the last few years on this subject has been our member Marcus Samuel, who has written an extremely handy article entitled "British Colonial 'Specimen' Stamps" on pages 424 to 432 (both inclusive) of "The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps Volume II" with the sub-title of "The Empire in Africa" by Robson Lowe. I am indebted to Marcus Samuel for his information about specimen stamps and much of what I have written above will be found in his article which was written a number of years ago. Volume II of "The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps" is unfortunately difficult to acquire these days, but if you are interested most philatelic libraries will have a copy for reference purposes. Specimen stamps at one time were frowned upon and extremely unpopular and consequently their market value was low. The situation in all these respects has now changed in the last five to ten years and it seems that it is now quite respectable to collect specimen stamps, which are clearly "on the way up".

(To be continued)

E. V. Toeg

BARBADOS

In reply to R. Radford's query re Barbados Official Mail.

I received this week a letter from the Ministry of Home Affairs in Barbados. The cover was franked with 2 x 35c. (S.G.352) stamps cancelled with Birmingham type B3 c.d.s. "Air Mail - G.P.O. Barbados" and dated "18 Sept 69"

Apart from the address the words "ON SERVICE" and "MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, BARBADOS" were typewritten on the top and bottom of the cover respectively.

Brian Limrick

CAYMAN ISLANDS

In referring to the 1946 "Victory" 1½d. Plate A1, stamp 45, row 8, stamp 3, Dr. John M. Lockie (Bulletin No. 62, p. 52) is shown as using some terminology that is liable, perhaps, to mislead. "Re-entry" is used, seemingly, as meaning duplications generally instead of referring to the results of a particular process of strengthening or repair; and "re-cutting" is employed as though it resulted from a repair by re-entry instead of manual application of the graver to the plate.

The variety was caused because, when that subject was being entered, the position of contact between roller and plate varied minutely from the intended position for a few moments.

CAYMAN ISLANDS (Cont.)

The exact sequence of events cannot be determined with certainty.

The precise axial line at which a roller relief subject and plate first come into contact for any design is a matter for the siderographer's judgment. From the variety's appearance it seems probable that the rocking of each of the designs on the plate began along a line vertically near the centre of the design.

How many passes, or rockings, were necessary to complete each entry is not known. The number varies for each different design, although it will be more or less standard for all entries of the same design on the same plate. Possibly as many as, or more than, 100 passes were used for each subject on the plate of the stamp under consideration.

The likelihood is that the misplacement in the variety occurred at the initiation of the entry, and occurred because of malfunctioning of the plate positioning mechanism. The misplacement may have happened after the plate was first proved, if the proof showed that that particular entry was too shallow. In that event the plate, as normal practice, would have been returned to the transfer press so that further passes could be made on the particular entry in order to deepen its recesses. Malfunctioning of the plate positioning mechanism, either alone or in conjunction with other factors, would account for a curious feature of the variety, namely, that the duplicating or thickening is prominently visible at and near the top but not so prominently at the foot of the design.

A procedurally evocative term that has been used in reference to the variety is "dropped roll."

L. N. & M. Williams

(Bibliography: *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, vol. 57, p.17 (Jan.-Mar. 1947).

Fundamentals of Philately, Section 2, pp. 166-7).

JAMAICA

I have recently acquired a copy of a Jamaica E.K.D. for "Flint River" Circular Type Rose Town Marking, Foster Type P2a. The date is 8th October, 1839. Foster records E.K.D. 10 Dec. 1839 and L.K.D. 18 Mar. 1858. These datestamps according to G.P.O. Records were sent out on 1st April, 1839, there being 42 in all. The earliest known used is Alexandria (9 May 1839).

The date stamp is made even more interesting by the fact that (a) the Date and Year Slugs are inverted and (b) the '1' of the Year slug is in italics and is M/S.

Malcolm D. Watts

In Bulletin 61, p. 7, under Bahamas mention is made of Jamaica S.G.71 with inverted watermark. I would like to confirm this and add that Jamaica S.G.74 is also found with the watermark inverted. Neither of these is so listed by Gibbons but S.G.71 was mentioned by Ed Aguilar in his handbook. Unfortunately, Aguilar actually misnumbered his listing of Jamaica War Stamps so I am not sure whether he is referring to S.G.70 or 71. He lists S.G.71 as the ½d. green when it is actually the 1½d. orange. The Handbook was published in 1949 so I checked Gibbons for that year to find out if any change has been made in the numbering but none has. Must have been the printer's fault.

Both S.G.71 and S.G.74 are Jamaica S.G.59 overprinted. This stamp was first issued in mid-July, 1916 and S.G.71 was overprinted in September, 1916. S.G.74 was overprinted in March, 1917.

Aguilar does list this stamp (S.G.59) with the watermark sideways and the overprinted varieties are now listed in Gibbons as S.G.71aa and 74aa. Incidentally, Gibbons only lists these as used but I have both mint.

Apparently quite a few sheets of S.G.59 with the watermark inverted slipped through De La Rue & Co. and were shipped to Jamaica as I have 22 mint copies of S.G.71 with the watermark inverted and 16 mint copies of S.G.74 with the inverted watermark, in pairs and blocks of four or six. I am sure that many copies with inverted watermarks are in existence but haven't been identified because they are not catalogued.

On the other hand, I wonder how many copies with the watermark sideways will turn up now that this variety is listed in Gibbons. From the catalogue value of \$108.00 established for both S.G.71aa and S.G.74aa, it would appear that an equal number of each are presumed to exist, one or two sheets of each at the most. This is surprising in that 7,374 sheets of S.G.71 were overprinted as compared with 34,412 sheets of S.G.74.

Both S.G.71 and S.G.74 (Jamaica) are to be found with the watermark inverted as well as sideways.

Incidentally, in the December, 1968 issue of the Bulletin Mr. Henriques asks if the Jamaica War Stamp overprints have been investigated with the same thoroughness as has the 2½d. overprint (S.G.30) in an article in "Gibbons Stamp Monthly," Nov., 1932. I am not familiar with this article nor is it readily available to me but is there any way I can be of help to Mr. Henriques?

Stamp catalogues, of course, are of little help in this area. Mr. Aguilar's last Handbook of Jamaica does carry it a step further by listing more varieties but it is still superficial. For example, let's resort to logic once again. A War Stamp

JAMAICA (Cont.)

is listed with no stop after "Stamp" (S.G.75a) and with the overprint inverted (75c). The no stop variety catalogues for \$2.40 or about fifteen times the value of the normal stamp. The inverted overprint variety catalogues for \$19.20 or over one hundred times the value of the normal stamp. All of these stamps were overprinted at the local newspaper plant in Kingston in sheets using set type. The inverted overprint variety was the result of a sheet going through backwards. All stamps on the sheet would show the inverted overprint. And one or more of the stamps would also be of the no stop variety. The catalogue value suggests that four stamps in each pane of sixty stamps was of the no stop variety. If this is so, then four stamps in each pane of the inverted overprint variety are also of the no stop variety and are worth approximately \$288.00 per stamp, yet they aren't even catalogued. Certainly, they must be considered a major variety. I am not really concerned with the catalogue value but only with the fact that one stamp is listed and a much rarer one is omitted.

Crawford D. Paton

LEEWARD ISLANDS

Manuscript Markings of Royal Mail Steam Packets "Eden," "Esk" and "Solent"
(Continued from Bulletin No. 62 page 63).

The letter rate for five of these covers was 2½d. for each half ounce to any part of the world and this rate commenced as from the 1st January, 1891, and lasted until the 25th December, 1898, when penny postage per half ounce to the United Kingdom and the British Empire generally came into operation. The sixth cover was posted in September 1899 and therefore the appropriate postage was the one penny rate. The exact dates of posting cannot be ascertained by reason of the nature of these covers; there is, however, a circular dated handstamp impressed in transit at St. Lucia either on the front or the back of each cover and the time taken for the journey to Manchester averaged about fourteen days. No one knows for certain the reason why these covers received manuscript markings instead of the usual Post Office handstamps, but it is the opinion of the writer that the manuscript markings were used to cancel covers posted by the sender direct into the ship's box. It is thought that the writers of these letters had missed the last official post on land which would connect with

the sailing times of the steamers and the only alternative would be for the letters to be taken direct to the ship and posted in the ship's box, thus bypassing the official postal service. The manuscript markings would then be written over the adhesive stamp or stamps or piece of postal stationery by the ship's captain or purser after sailing commenced. It was, and still remains, a common practice in many parts of the world for merchants to put their late mail on board ship in the manner described so as not to miss the outgoing mail. This was a method used in many ports throughout, notably, the Mediterranean area and possibly in the Dutch Caribbean colonies as well.

It will no doubt be realised by members that these manuscript markings on loose stamps, whether or not on piece, should be regarded with considerable reserve as there is no way of telling whether the manuscript marking is genuine or not but quite clearly a complete cover is a satisfactory item in this respect.

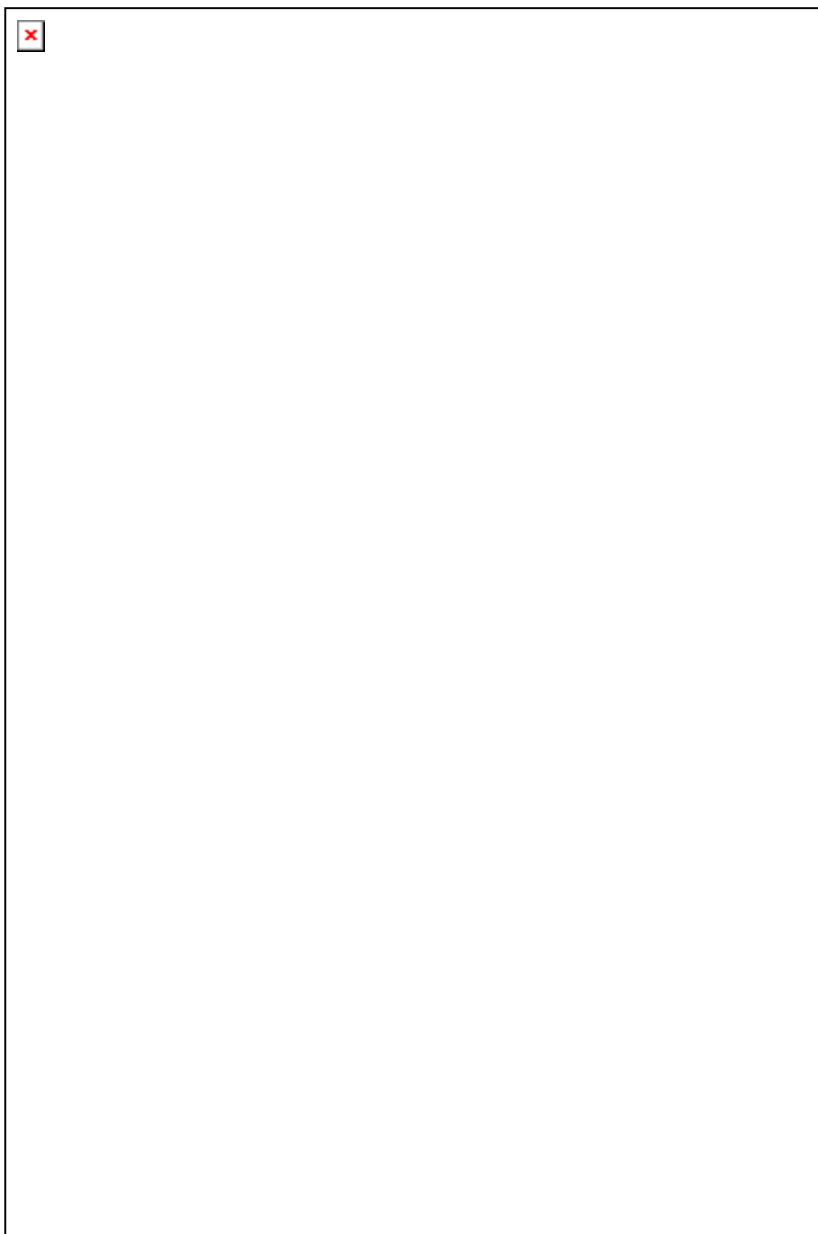
Manuscript markings of this nature on West Indian covers have always been found in red ink and in no other colour. Some years ago the writer was shown one loose stamp with a manuscript marking in blue-black or black ink but he was at that time and still is of the opinion that this was not a genuine marking.

Apart from the illustrated items which are from the writer's collection, the writer has seen similar covers in the collection of our member T. V. Roberts and what is rather striking is the fact that all the adhesive stamps on the covers in both collections are Leeward Islands stamps and the one example of postal stationery in the writer's collection is Leeward Islands postal stationery. This can be explained by the fact that the adhesive stamps of the various Presidencies (Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Christopher and the Virgin Islands) comprising the Leeward Islands group were superseded on 31st October, 1890, by the general issue for the Leeward Islands group. Fresh issues of stamps for the Presidencies did not occur again until 1903 except in the case of the Virgin Islands, who, on or about 1st January, 1899, issued the Madonna with the Lilies set.

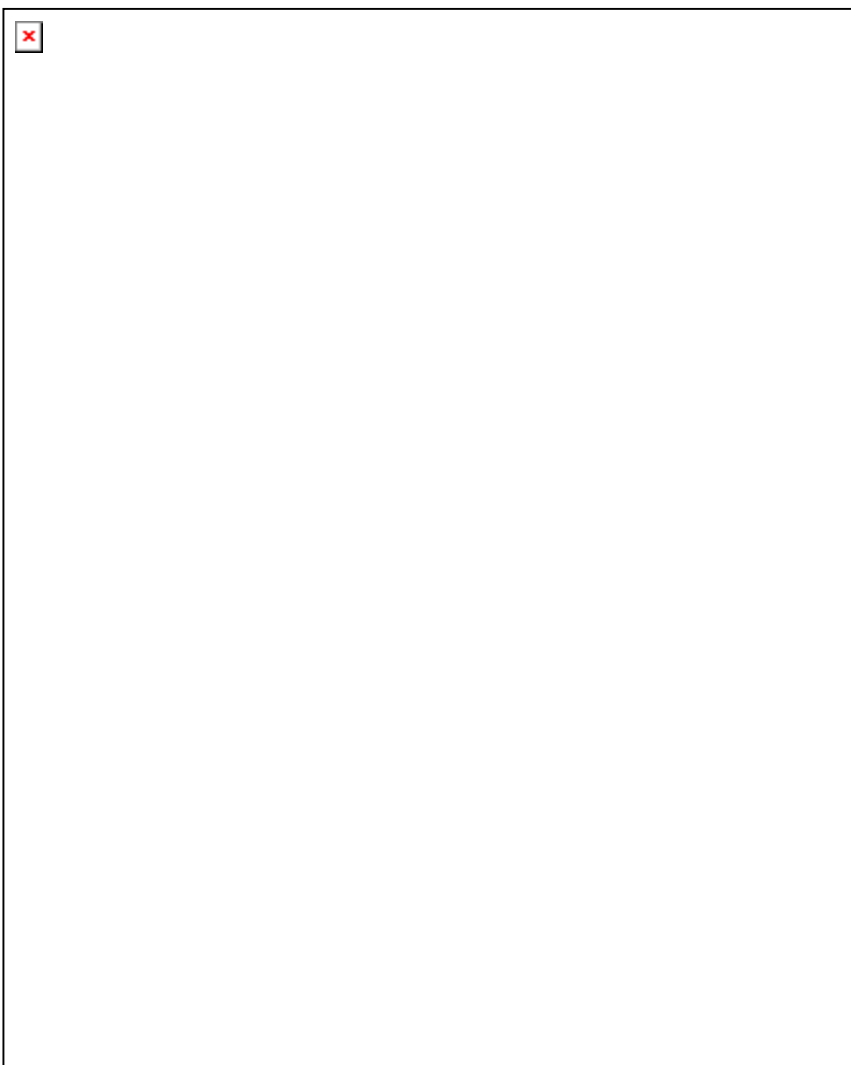
It follows from this that although the writer has not seen them, covers with similar manuscript markings may exist with stamps of the various Presidencies as an alternative to Leeward Islands stamps provided the covers were dated in 1903 or later and in the case of the Virgin Islands if the covers are dated from on or about the 1st January, 1899. Also combination covers can exist, as, after the 25th December, 1898, postage on letters to the United Kingdom and the British Empire generally could conceivably consist of two different ½d. stamps and also after that date postage to other places was still 2½d. for each half ounce.

E. V. Toeg.

LEEWARD ISLANDS (Cont.)









ADDENDA

1. The first instalment of this Article in Bulletin No. 61 should have concluded with the following paragraph:-

"The scourge of yellow fever caused so many deaths among its personnel that the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company was forced to reduce the stay of its steamers in Charlotte Amalie to a minimum. As a result the transfer of passengers, cargo and mail came to be made off the British Virgin Islands, which lie to the eastward of St. Thomas and consist of the large island of Tortola and a chain of smaller islands culminating in the Horseshoe Reef. When weather conditions were favourable, coals and provisions were brought out from St. Thomas in hulks and lighters so that the necessity for a call at that island was, in some cases, entirely eliminated. This was a slow and costly process, but it was more than justified by the saving in human life and in the avoidance of irksome quarantine restrictions at other ports on the lines of route."

2. There should be the following caption under the illustration of the three intercolonial steamers in Bulletin No. 62, viz: "R.M.S.P. "Eden," "Esk," and "Solent," 1900."

CORRIGENDUM

Regarding the particulars of R.M.S.P. "Esk" on Page 61 of Bulletin No. 62, this steamer was built in 1882 and not 1822 as printed in the text.

ST. LUCIA

Re: Soufriere Post Office - 1850

Taken from the St. Lucia Almanac, 1852

1. POST OFFICERS - 1852

Deputy Postmaster General - Francis Dreuil, Esq. Sub-Postmaster General, Soufriere - Mr. C. Robinson.

2. INLAND POST - 1852

The mail for Soufriere is despatched from the Post Office at Castries at half-past 11 a.m. daily (Sundays excepted); and the return mail for Castries is made up at Soufriere at 7 p.m. and is due at Castries at 7 on the following morning.

The postage of a letter not weighing above ½oz. is "one penny," and must be paid at the Soufriere post office only.

3. SOUFRIERE POST OFFICE OPENED ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING:-

INDEX TO LAWS 1852

Post, inland. Government Notice, April 8, 1850 referring to I.A. (Imperial Act), I Vic. Cap. 36.

Robert J. Devaux.

TOBAGO

I have a couple of queries which might be of interest to the members of the Study Circle. The first is a postmark from Tobago, it is on a 1885 1d. carmine stamp, S.G.21, the postmark is 2B1 surrounded by a double line oval broken into four arcs. This is a postmark which I have never come across before and can't seem to find any reference to it in the literature which I have.

ST. VINCENT—

The second is a postmark on a St. Vincent stamp namely RABACCA dated 17 JA 1890 code letter C, I was wondering if someone could tell me when this P.O. opened and what date it closed as it does not appear on my list of Post Offices of St. Vincent.

B. Walker

TRINIDAD

As a novice collector of the obliterators of Trinidad & Tobago, I have run across a few minor problems that bother me. In the 1963 handbook of T. & T. (Marriot) the obliterator 0 1 b is listed as relatively common, yet I have never been able to find one. Am I missing it or is it less common over here than in England?

Unless I'm reading them incorrectly, I seem to have real or bogus cancellations of type 02- # 8, 04- # 3 and #30. Are there additions to be made to Marriots listing or are these questionable strikes?

There is no relative scarcity indicated for type 06-#s37 and 38. Would appreciate some indication.

Robert Topaz

VIRGIN ISLANDS

While I have very few obliterators of the Virgins, perhaps there is something in here that will help those involved. I must confess I see no help in them, but I do have A91 as late as 19 June, 1902 on piece and on stamps through Leewards SG. # 30. Violet strike only on S.G.#29.

A13 is scarcer in my book and have it only on S.G.#s 7, 29, 32, 36 and 43, plus the Leewards overprints of 1902.

Robert Topaz

VIRGIN ISLANDS (Cont.)

May I suggest that an attempt be made to collate and progressively to publish in the Bulletin summaries of the issued quantities of the earlier B.W.I. stamps. The information as to these is usually to be found somewhere in print but, with few exceptions, is not widely known and often has to be gleaned from several sources.

The following table gives the figures for the early issues of **VIRGIN ISLANDS**.

S.G. Nos.		Date of First Consignment	Total Issued Quantity
1.2.5.6	1d	26.11.1866	22,000
3.4.7	6d.	26.11.1866	11,000
15.16.17	4d.	12.7.1867	13,000
11.14.14A	}	12.7.1867	1,000
18.19.20			10,000*
8.9.12	1d.	6.6.1868	37,800
10.13	6d.	6.6.1868	1,000
21.21A	1/-	6.6.1868	2,000
22.22A.22B	1d.	2.2.1877	6,504
25	2½d.	7.11.1879	3,300
24	1d.	8.7.1880	8,640
26	½d.	29.3.1883	5,200
27.28	½d.	27.8.1883	72,360
29.30	1d.	27.8.1883	19,860
31	2½d.	29.2.1884	16,740
33.36.37	4d.	12.9.1887	15,228
38.39	6d.	17.3.1888	9,480
42	4d. on 1/-	July, 1888	2,500*
32.33.34	1d.	31.12.1888	57,840
40.41.41A	1/-	31.12.1888	6,000

Notes

"The quantity given for S.G.18-20 includes the 125 sheets surcharged to produce S.G.42. Thus the total ultimately of S.G.18-20 was 7,500.

The figures for the 1887/8 issues include substantial quantities despatched by De La Rue after the individual issues for Virgin Islands were withdrawn in favour of the uniform Leeward Islands issues. It is therefore of interest to see the quantities of remainders offered for sale on 20.8.1891, with figures for the final consignment by De La Rue given in brackets immediately afterwards.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Quantity Remaindered</i>	<i>Consignment 6.2.91</i>
½d.	17,364	(6,120)
1d.	38,969	(36,000)
1d. postcard	2,988	
1½d. postcard	1,668	
2½d.	10,007	(3,696)
4d.	8,746	(3,696)

6d.	6,408	(2,400)
1/-	3,801	(2,400)

Following my comments in Bulletin No. 61 pp. 19/21 I can now amplify these in two respects:

(a) The postal history cover which I mentioned (which incidentally was sold in July, 1951) was a registered cover to New York postmarked 1886. It bore S.G. 18 or 19 and a pair, not a single of S.G. 29 or 30.

(b) A non-philatelic cover dated 1887 bearing four copies of the 1d. pale rose (S.G.29), cancelled A91 and Tortola date stamp on front was advertised in Bulletin No. 40. *S. Goldblatt.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS

These are due on February 1st, 1970, and prompt payment will be much appreciated thereby saving both time and expense in sending out reminders. Any member who does not already effect payment by Bankers' Order and would like to do so can obtain the appropriate form upon application to the Hon. Secretary/Treasurer. **Overseas members who are accustomed to remit in currency are requested to kindly add 30c. to cover collection charges.**

MISCELLANEA

AUCTION GLEANINGS

Robson Lowe Ltd. Sale of May 29th, 1969

	£
Anguilla. 1967, 50c., S.G.12. Used	210
" " \$1, S.G.14, mint (v. slight gum disturbance)	105
Bahamas. 1912-19, £1 dull green and black, mint unmounted block of 4	210
Barbados. 1852-55, 4d. brownish-red, used	40
Cayman Is. 1907-09, 5s. MCA, mint corner block of 4 with plate No. 1	80
Dominica. 1923-27, £1, mint corner block of 4 with plate number 1	235
Dominica. 1923-27. Mint corner pair, with plate number 1	110
Leeward Is. 1921-32, Script, £1, mint marginal block of 4	120
Montserrat. 1932, Tercentenary, ½d. to 5/-, all in mint pairs	65
Nevis. 1876, Litho, p.15, 1/- dp. green, mint sheet of 12	60
St. Kitts-Nevis. 1923, Tercentenary, ½d. to £1, lightly cancelled set (2/- with corner defect)	250
St. Lucia. 1864, CC, 6d. violet, var., imperforate, mint	70
" 1882-84, CA perf. 14, 4d yellow, mint pair	41
St. Vincent. 1869, p. 11 to 12½, 4d. yellow, mint	52 10

MISCELLANEA (Cont.)	£
St. Vincent. 1877, p. 11 to 12½, 4d. dp. blue, mint ..	44
" " 1913-17, MCA, £1, mint marginal unmounted block of 4	155

Bournemouth Stamp Auctions
Sale of September 4th and 5th, 1969

Barbuda. 1922, complete set, unmounted mint	28
British Guiana. 1866, p. 10, lc., complete sheet of 100 (a few rust marks in margins)	45
Grenada. 1902, CA, 10/- green and purple, mint	28
" 1904-06, MCA, 10/- green and purple, mint	36
Leeward Is. 1928, £1, used	26
St. Kitts-Nevis. 1922, MCA, £1. Well centred, mint.	36
St. Lucia. 1950, p. 14½ x 14, 12c. claret, margin at foot, unmounted, mint	40
Trinidad. 1904-09, £1 green and carmine, mint	34

Stanley Gibbons Auctions Ltd.
Sale of May 1st and 2nd, 1969

Barbados. 1878, 1d. on half 5/-, se-tenant pair, types A & B, without dividing perf., S.G.86d, neat canc., R.P.S. cert. (Ex Charlton Henry)	1,200
British Guiana. 1853, lc. vermilion, S.G.11, lightly canc. block of 4, showing traces of two adjacent stamps at foot, sl. crease, bottom row (ex Caspary)	720
British Guiana. 1853, lc. vermilion, S.G.11, showing trace of adjacent stamp, used	58
Grenada. Cover of April/May, 1877 to Paris with 'mixed franking,' 1863-80, 6d. vermilion plus 1d, and two diag. bisects of 1d., all affixed slightly overlapping each other, one bisect affixed after other (shown by position of date stamp impression). The cover (a little soiled) was surcharged 1.10F. on arrival. R.P.S. cert. (ex Gilbert-Lodge)	220
Montserrat. 1932, Tercentenary, ½d. to 5/- S.G.84-93, in unmounted mint Plate number blocks of 4	180
Nevis. 1866, 1/- yellow-green, S.G.14, part pane of 9 with outer margins, last stamp, 2nd row, var. "crossed lines on hill," S.G.14b (diag. crease lower left corner), o.g. (ex Charlton Henry)	500
Nevis. 1866. Laid paper, 1/- yellow-green, S.G.14a, well centred, light canc. R.P.S. cert. (ex Charlton Henry)	480

Nevis. 1876, Litho, 1/- pale green, strip of 3, sheet margins left and right, showing imperf. between variety on each stamp, S.G.20b, unused (ex Charlton Henry)	190
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Sale of June 26th and 27th, 1969

Anguilla. 1967, Independence ovpt., 60c., S.G.13, used on cover to Antigua. Anguilla-Valley c.d.s. 21 Nov. '67	180
Barbados. 1873, 5/-, S.G.64, segment cancl.	27
Bermuda. 1918, £1, S.G.55, large part o.g.	23
" 1922-34, 12/6, S.G.93, large part o.g.	21
" 1938-53, 12/6, S.G.120b, large part o.g.	58
British Guiana. 1853, lc. vermilion, S.G.11, used, very fine colour	80
" 1853-59, 4c. pale blue, S.G.20, vert. pair, portions of 1857 town cancl.	135
" 1938-52, perf. 14 x 13, \$1. S.G.317a, large part o.g.	45
British Honduras. 1922-33, \$5, S.G.125, large part o.g.	33
" 1962, 10c., var., blue omitted, S.G.207a, unhinged, o.g., normal for comparison	28
Cayman Is. 1932, Centenary, ¼d. to 10/-, S.G.84-95, large part o.g.	50
Dominica. 1883-84, 2½d., S.G.16, block of 6, unhinged o.g.	40
" 1923-27, £1, S.G.91, large part o.g.	30
St.Kitts-Nevis. 1920-22, £1, S.G.36, large part o.g.	30
" 1923, Tercentenary, 10/-, S.G.58, large part o.g.	37

H. R. Harmer Ltd.

Sale of March 19th & 20th,

Anguilla. 1967, Independence set, S.G.116, lightly cancelled	480
Cayman Is. 1908, 2½d. on 4d., S.G.24, part o.g. (trifle soiled and perf. a little short at top)	95
Grenada, 1861-62, 1d. bluish-green, S.G.1, c.d.s., "MAR 24 1862 E"	48
" 6d. die proof in black, mounted on card (trifle stained)	95
" Perf. 11-12, 6d. lake-red, S.G.3a, block of 4, part o.g., centred slightly to right, with usual creasing, a little gum thinned	210

MISCELLANEA (Cont.)

Grenada. 1863-71, 6d. dull rose red, wmk. sideways, S.G.8, lightly canc., horiz. pair, centred a little to bottom	50
Sale of May 5th & 6th, 1969	
Bahamas. 1863-80, CC, 6d. dp. violet, imperf. imprimatur (a little close at one corner)	36
Cayman Is. 1907-09, 4d., S.G.29, unmounted mint block of 4 from left of sheet	37
Leeward Is. 1897, Jubilee, 5/-, S.G.16, part o.g. R.P.S. cert.	60
St. Vincent. 1862, rough perf. 14 to 16, 6d. dp. green, S.G.4, horiz. pair used on part env, to L'pool dated 1865 (centred to top and v. slightly stained on perfs.)	17
1863-66, perf. 11 to 12½ x 14 to 16, 1d., S.G.7, light canc. (centred to top left. a little stained). R.P.S. cert.	120
1863-66, 1d., var. imperf., S.G.7a, part o.g. horiz. pair from bottom of sheet Trinidad. 1863-75, CC, 4d., 6d., 1/- imperf. imprimaturs of each value, unused	44
Trinidad. 1863-75, CC, 4d., 6d., 1/- imperf imprimateurs of each value, unused	46

Sale of July 14th, 15th, 16th & 17th, 1969

Bahamas. 1862, perf. 11½, 12, compound with 11, 6d. lavender- grey, S.G.15, A05 canc. (centred somewhat to bottom, few small faults)	65
1921-29, £1, S.G.131, o.g.	21
Barbados, 1893, local cover with crowned circle "PAID AT BARBADOES" dated "BARBADOS FE 17 93"	7
1906, Nelson, proof in black of vignette, on thick paper, inscribed in ms, "Barbados Nelson Stamp 15 Sep. 1905"	67 10
Bermuda. 1968, Olympic Games 3d. var. value and country omitted, mint, centred sl. to r.	230

Rose Titford

ERRATUM

In Bulletin No. 62 page 49, the date of the despatch of the Crowned Circle stamp for Dominica was given as 17.5.1805. The correct date was 17.5.1845.

HON. SECRETARY'S PARAGRAPH

Dear Member,

In contrast to 1968 I was very pleased with the splendid attendance at our Autumn Meeting held on October 29th, 1969. As you will note elsewhere in this issue our President's display was of a very high order. His discourse on many of the items on view was exceedingly interesting and emphasised how well he knew his subject. This issue concludes the biannual period in connection with award of the 'G. W. Collett' Trophy. Judging will take place early in the New Year and the winner will be announced at our Anniversary Meeting to be held on April 11th, 1970. On another page you will find a Notice in respect of Philympia, 1970 and we look forward intensely to meeting many members from overseas on what cannot be other than a memorable occasion. I take this opportunity to extend a cordial welcome on your behalf to the following who have been enrolled as members since our last issue: J. Berman (Cornwall), Miss B. J. Collinson (Hertfordshire), B. Norman (London), R. C. Walsh (Cheshire) and J. Wearing (Buckinghamshire).

With the approach of the 'festive' season I would like to conclude by wishing you a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous (philatelically and otherwise) New Year.

P.T.S.

OBITUARY

WILLIAM BRITTON STITT

It is with deep regret we have to record the passing of Mr. William B. Stitt on May 17th, 1969. He had been a member for some years and his main interests in B.W.I. were Bahamas and Bermuda. Over the years it was my great pleasure to receive many letters from him from which it was abundantly evident that he was a keen and enthusiastic student of his stamps. Our sincere sympathies are extended to his wife and family.

P. T. Saunders

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